



GREENSBORO URBAN AREA Metropolitan Planning Organization

TECHNICAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Minutes of April 23, 2003

1:30 p.m. Greensboro, NC

Plaza Level Conference Room

Melvin Municipal Office Building

(Greensboro City Hall)

ATTENDANCE

Tyler Meyer	GDOT	Marie Sutton	NCDOT - PDEA
Adam Fischer	GDOT	Linwood Stone	NCDOT - PDEA
Jeff Sovich	GDOT	Greg Brew	NCDOT – Roadway Design
Tom Martin	Greensboro Planning Department	Marcus Wilner	FHWA
Frank Wyatt	Greensboro Eng. & Inspections	Bill Marley	FHWA
Les Eger	Guilford County Planning	Gregg Danzer	Town of Pleasant Garden
Scott Rhine	PART	Robert Gordon	Town of Summerfield
Kimberly Hinton	NCDOT – Statewide Planning	Paul Muschick	<i>News & Record</i>
Mike Mills	NCDOT – Highway Division 7	Sue Ann Harrison	Emert Reporting Service
Scott Walston	NCDOT – Statewide Planning		

Tyler Meyer called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Action Items

1. Approval of Minutes of March 19, 2003

Kimberly Hinton requested to make amendments to the minutes. Specifically, she requested that her presence at the meeting be indicated in the list of attendees. She also requested that the account of Action Item 5 reflect the fact that at the time of the meeting, she had not viewed a copy of the implementation guidance addressed from Deputy Secretary Roger Sheats. Scott Rhine moved for approval of the minutes, so amended. Kimberly Hinton seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes as amended.

2. Amend 2002-2008 MTIP – Enhancement Grant Projects

Jeff Sovich stated that three projects received Enhancement Grant awards. The sidewalks on McKnight Mill Road are situated on either side of the pedestrian overpass and connect this important facility to the pedestrian network. Phase I of Southeast area trail connector links various parks schools and neighborhoods. The landscaping improvements at the intersection of NC 68 and NC 150 in Oak Ridge supports of that community's beautification objectives. The proposed amendment would add these projects into the 2002 – 2008 MTIP.

Kimberly Hinton moved to recommend approval of the amendment to the TAC. Mike Mills seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

3. Designated Recipient for the Greensboro Urbanized Area

Jeff Sovich advised that this item is a product of the Federal Transit Administration's requirements for disbursement of transit grant funds for urbanized areas. The required procedure for naming the area's designated recipient is different due to GTA's recent transition from a Governor's Apportionment transit provider to a Direct Apportionment provider. This resolution presented today would grant local concurrence in naming the City of Greensboro as the area's designated recipient of federal urbanized area grant funds.

Scott Rhine moved to recommend approval of the resolution to the TAC. Frank Wyatt seconded the motion. The Committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Business Items

1. Thoroughfare Plan Amendment / Airport Area Transportation Study Findings

Tyler Meyer stated that the Airport Area Transportation Study was complete including recommendations for future transportation corridors. Scott Walston updated the Committee regarding the airport study. The goals of the Airport Area Study were to develop recommendations on: the future routing of I-73 through the airport area; relocation of Bryan Boulevard for immediate access to the airport terminal; improving access from High Point to the airport; improving access from Forsyth County to the airport; providing adequate access to the airport via public transportation. The latest models were used in preparing this study. Of the 16 alternatives developed and evaluated, Alternative 2 was selected as the recommended package of conceptual alignments to achieve the goals of the study. Maps and illustrations of the Alternative 2 were distributed to Committee members. The three major corridors recommended by the alternative include the I-40/NC 68/I-73 Connector, which will carry approximately 70,000 vehicles per day at its busiest point; an Airport Connector that would originate in Forsyth County; and an extension of Sandy Ridge Road northward, to intersect these two other routes.

Tyler Meyer stated that the amendment would add recommended corridors to the Thoroughfare Plan so that further studies could be conducted. The staff also at this time recommends incorporating the study's recommended deletions: the Sandy Ridge Road / Pleasant Ridge Road Connector; and the Bryan Boulevard Extension to Pleasant Ridge Road.

Tyler Meyer noted that the next steps in this process will be a public meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 24, 2003, where the Airport Area Transportation Study and the Proposed Thoroughfare Plan Amendments will be made available. This meeting initiates a 30 day public review period, which would be advertised and distributed in accordance with MPO's Public Involvement Plan. At the May meeting, staff will review public feedback on the study recommendations, and present the proposed thoroughfare plan amendments to the TCC and TAC. The TAC will consider adoption of the proposed amendments at that time.

2. US 29 Corridor Study

Adam Fischer stated that GDOT is coordinating a study of US 29 from Phillips Avenue to I-40. The study will identify recommended improvements to enhance the safety and operational characteristics of this facility. Access points along US 29 will also be evaluated for possible improvement or removal. The consulting firm RS&H Engineering will be conducting the study.

3. Mobility Greensboro Update

GTA will provide further updates and information on progress with the Long Range Public Transportation Plan to the committee at future meetings.

4. West Market Street Widening

Marie Sutton stated that the study will prepare an Environmental Assessment and a preliminary design for the widening of West Market Street to a multi-lane facility. This federal-aid project is included in the 2004 – 2010 TIP. The estimated total project cost is \$15.2 million. Traffic volume on West Market Street is forecast to range from 18,000 to 25,000 vehicles per day in 2025. Several cross-section alternatives will be studied: "no-build," four-lane median-divided with a shoulder, four-lane median-divided with curb and gutter, five-lane with shoulder, five-lane with curb and gutter, and a hybrid alternative, combining two or more of the other alternatives. A public meeting was held on September 10, 2002. The environmental studies conclude that no archaeological investigations are required and no affected properties are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Sidewalks have been requested on both sides of West Market Street from NC 68 to Sandy Ridge Road. Carbon monoxide concentrations for the evaluation years indicated no violation of the NAAQS standards. The final environmental document is scheduled to be completed in April of 2004.

5. Other Strategic Reports

Tyler Meyer advised that a citizens' informational workshop will be held on April 30, 2003 between 4:30 and 6:30 at Webb Hall regarding replacement of the East Market Street bridge over US 29. Interested parties have been informed of the meeting.

Other Items

1. TCC Member Update

Mike Mills informed the Committee that work on the I-40 widening project continues. The section of I-40 from Chimney Rock Road to Holden Road has an estimated completion date of June 15, 2003. The section from Chimney Rock Road to Sandy Ridge Road should be complete late 2003.

Bill Marley introduced Marcus Wilner, Planning & Programming Development Manager with the North Carolina Division of FHWA, to the Committee.

The TCC adjourned at 2:11 p.m.